



Rule Up For Final Action

Proposed Amendment to

WAC 230-40-120

Limits on wagers in card games.

ITEM 1 (a) on the February 12, 2004, Commission Meeting Agenda.

Statutory Authority 9.46.070

Who proposed the rule change?

Dolores Chiechi, Recreational Gaming Association

Why is this rule change needed?

The Recreational Gaming Association submitted a Petition for Rule Change requesting that betting limits for house-banked card games be increased from \$100 to \$300. The Petition was discussed at the August, September, October and November Commission meetings.

Alternative #1: At the October Commission meeting, Commissioner Orr proposed an amendment that would raise the betting limit to \$200 rather than \$300, and have it be based on the number of tables authorized in a card room:

Five or fewer tables would have one table at the higher limit;

Six to ten tables, would have two tables at the higher limit;

Eleven to fifteen tables would have three tables at the higher limit.

The proposal would also have the increased betting limits run only through 2004, and sunset (end) after that. In order for it to continue, another rule proposal would have to be made.

Commissioner Orr's amended rule was discussed at the November Commission meeting and held over for further discussion at the January 2004, meeting (this meeting was cancelled due to severe weather conditions).

Attached:

Memo to the Commission from Deputy Director Robert Berg dated November 3, 2003

Net Win Charts for 2001-2003: Card Room Comparison; Skyway Bowl (statistics are included for Skyway Bowl to provide information in addition to their letter dated September 10, 2003).

Stakeholder input **Opposing** increased betting limits (yellow paper): Nine letters and 59 e-mails

Stakeholder input **Supporting** increased betting limits (green paper): Four letters, 73 e-mails, and 103 electronic signatures via two sign-up sheets that were posted on the agency website.

Example of staff's notification letter to stakeholders dated January 29, 2004, regarding the March 2004, meeting.

Responses to Issues and Considerations Prepared by the Recreational Gaming Association, dated 9/10/03

Notification letter dated September 3, 2003, regarding the Petition – Sent to each Tribal Chair

Memo to Director Day from Special Assistant Ed Fleisher dated August 28, 2003

Memo to the Commission from Director Day dated August 27, 2003

Memo to the Commission from Director Day dated August 1, 2003

Petition for Rule Change and Proposed amendment WAC 230-40-120

Statements against the proposed rule change.

Numerous people testified for and against the increase in betting limits at the Commission meetings.

Which licensees will be directly impacted?

House-Banked Card Rooms.

What are the potential impacts to the agency?

Minimal.

Staff recommendation.

Whether or not to allow this is a policy decision. The attached memorandums include some issues the Commission may wish to consider in making this decision.